

Introduced by Senator AlquistFebruary 23, 2006

An act to amend Section 33126.1 of the Education Code, relating to school accountability.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1510, as introduced, Alquist. School accountability: report card.

Existing law, the Classroom Instructional Improvement and Accountability Act, requires a school accountability report card to include certain assessments of school conditions. Existing law requires the State Department of Education to develop and recommend for adoption a standardized template for that report card, as specified. Existing law requires local educational agencies to make those report cards available through the Internet or through paper copies.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to that provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 33126.1 of the Education Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 33126.1. (a) The department shall develop and recommend
- 4 for adoption by the ~~State Board of Education~~ *state board* a
- 5 standardized template intended to simplify the process for
- 6 completing the school accountability report card and make the
- 7 school accountability report card more meaningful to the public.

(b) The standardized template shall include fields for the insertion of data and information by the department and by local educational agencies, including a field to report the determination of the sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials, as defined in Section 60119, and a summary statement of the condition of school facilities, as defined in Section 17014, Section 17032.5, subdivision (a) of Section 17070.75, and subdivision (b) of Section 17089. The department shall provide examples of summary statements of the condition of school facilities that are acceptable and those that are unacceptable. When the template for a school is completed, it should enable parents and guardians to compare the manner in which local schools compare to other schools within that district as well as other schools in the state.

(c) In conjunction with the development of the standardized template, the department shall furnish standard definitions for school conditions included in the school accountability report card. The standard definitions shall comply with the following:

(1) Definitions shall be consistent with the definitions already in place or under the development at the state level pursuant to existing law.

(2) Definitions shall enable schools to furnish contextual or comparative information to assist the public in understanding the information in relation to the performance of other schools.

(3) Definitions shall specify the data for which the department will be responsible for providing and the data and information for which the local educational agencies will be responsible.

(d) By December 1, 2000, the department shall report to the ~~State Board of Education~~ *state board* on the school conditions for which it already has standard definitions in place or under development. The report shall include a survey of the conditions for which the department has valid and reliable data at the state, district, or school level. The report shall provide a timetable for the inclusion of conditions for which standard definitions or valid and reliable data do not yet exist through the department.

(e) By December 1, 2000, the ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction~~ shall recommend and the ~~State Board of Education~~ *state board* shall appoint 13 members to serve on a broad-based advisory committee of local administrators, educators, parents, and other knowledgeable parties to develop definitions for the

1 school conditions for which standard definitions do not yet exist.
2 ~~The State Board of Education~~ *state board* may designate outside
3 experts in performance measurements in support of activities of
4 the advisory board.

5 (f) By January 1, 2001, the ~~State Board of Education~~ *state*
6 *board* shall approve available definitions for inclusion in the
7 template as well as a timetable for the further development of
8 definitions and data collection procedures. ~~By July 1, 2001, and~~
9 ~~each~~ *Each* year thereafter, the ~~State Board of Education~~ *state*
10 *board* shall adopt the template for the current year's school
11 accountability report card. Definitions for all school conditions
12 shall be included in the template by July 1, 2002.

13 (g) The department shall annually post the completed and
14 viewable template on the Internet. The template shall be designed
15 to allow schools or districts to download the template from the
16 Internet. The template shall further be designed to allow local
17 educational agencies, including individual schools, to enter data
18 into the school accountability report card electronically,
19 individualize the report card, and further describe the data
20 elements. The department shall establish model guidelines and
21 safeguards that may be used by school districts secured access
22 only for those school officials authorized to make modifications.

23 (h) The department shall annually post, on the Internet, each
24 eligible school's claiming rate of pupils who earned an award for
25 either of the programs established by subdivision (a) of Section
26 69997. The Scholarshare Investment Board shall provide the
27 claiming rates, for the most recent two-year period, for each
28 eligible school to the department by June 30 of each year.
29 Schools shall post their claiming rate, required in paragraph (25)
30 of subdivision (b) of Section 33216, from the Internet site of the
31 department.

32 (i) The department shall maintain current Internet links with
33 the Web sites of local educational agencies to provide parents
34 and the public with easy access to the school accountability
35 report cards maintained on the Internet. In order to ensure the
36 currency of these Internet links, local educational agencies that
37 provide access to school accountability report cards through the
38 Internet shall furnish current Uniform Resource Locators for
39 their Web sites to the department.

1 (j) A school or school district that chooses not to utilize the
2 standardized template adopted pursuant to this section shall
3 report the data for its school accountability report card in a
4 manner that is consistent with the definitions adopted pursuant to
5 subdivision (c).

6 (k) The department shall provide recommendations for
7 changes to the California Basic Education Data System, or any
8 successor data system, and other data collection mechanisms to
9 ensure that the information will be preserved and available in the
10 future.

11 (l) Local educational agencies shall make these school
12 accountability report cards available through the Internet~~or~~,
13 through paper copies, *or through both the Internet and paper*
14 *copies*.

15 (m) The department shall monitor the compliance of local
16 educational agencies with the requirements to prepare and to
17 distribute school accountability report cards.